MINUTES OF FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE September 26, 2012

7:00 P.M.

2nd Floor Conference Room – Warren Green Building 10 Hotel Street Warrenton, VA 20186

Members Present: Peter S. Eltringham, Chairman, Ed Moore, Vice Chairman, R. Holder

Trumbo, Adrienne Garreau, Tony Tedeschi, John Green, Matthew Sheedy

and Roy Tate

Members Absent: Jeffrey Walker

Guests Present: Sergeant Grummett, VA State Police; and First Sergeant Marshall, Sheriff's

Department

Staff Present: Susan Eddy and Meredith Meixner

1. Approval of August 29, 2012 Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION: On motion made by Adrienne Garreau and seconded by Tony Tedeschi, it was moved to approve the August 29, 2012 Committee Meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Blantyre Road & Route 17 – Ken and Pat Adams Request

Mrs. Eddy provided a brief history of the request.

Mrs. Meixner showed two brief videos prepared by Mr. Adams and passed out information from Margaret Gill.

Mr. Tedeschi read aloud a statement from Mrs. Adams, who was unable to attend.

Mr. Tate shared the results of the intersection study performed in July 2012, which resulted in the recommendation of enlarging the advance side road warning signs and adding advisory speed signs of 50 mph on Route 17 north and south bound. Mr. Tate then reviewed the crash data from January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2010.

Mr. Eltringham expressed his support for flashing lights and improved signage and markings not only on Route 17, but also on Blantyre Road.

Ms. Kim Head, resident on Route 17, described the difficulty of leaving and returning to her driveway due to the excessive speeding. She strongly urged that VDOT lower the speed to 45 mph from the bypass to past Blantyre Road and further safety improvements.

Another citizen who lives on the corner of Blantyre Road and Rt. 17, agreed with the speeding issues and explained that drivers use Blantyre Road as a cut through. However, he is opposed to adding rumble strips due to the noise next to his home.

Mr. Eltringham stated that Route 17 is a Corridor of Statewide Significance where the commercial development of the state supports the truck traffic in order to support the economy of the region.

A citizen suggested VDOT add pavement markings in the twenty foot storage area to guide where cars should stop in the crossover of the intersection.

Mr. Tedeschi noted the edge of the pavement to the grass is difficult to see, especially at night, and feels pavement markings would be beneficial. He expressed support for the speed to be reduced to 45 mph.

First Sergeant Marshall confirmed the accident from mid-September was reportable and will show on VDOT's data once updated. He is in agreement with adding the pavement markings in the crossover.

ACTION: VDOT agreed to look into adding facilities such as flashing lights and rumble strips on Route 17 and a stop bar with centerline markings in the storage area of the crossover. In addition, VDOT will perform a speed study on Route 17 and collect accident data since 2010.

3. Catlett Road No Passing – Raymond Zuspan Request

Mrs. Eddy explained the passing zone allows both directions to pass in front of the Southern Fauquier Child Development Center on Catlett Road (Route 28) just north of Grace Miller Elementary School.

Mr. Zuspan described his experience from the previous week when he was southbound on Catlett Road waiting to turn into the child care center and a northbound vehicle attempted to pass four cars and stopped before hitting him head on. He explained that this child care center is widely used for children attending Grace Miller and H.M. Pearson Elementary Schools.

Mr. Moore noted he supports a no passing area in front of the child care center.

Mr. Tate stated that VDOT does not close passing areas in front of private driveways and since this is a commercial use, they would evaluate the entrance and site distance, look at crash data and the length of the existing passing zone.

Mr. Eltringham asked Mrs. Eddy if this request was incorporated into the Rt. 28 Safety Study. Mrs. Eddy replied that it was not part of the scope of the study and should be looked at separately.

Mr. Eltringham further asked if there was accident data available. Mrs. Eddy responded that the Rt. 28 Safety Study does include accident data and could be referenced. Mr. Tate also noted that VDOT will collect the data as part of their evaluation.

Mr. Tate explained that VDOT will need to evaluate the entrance to the child care center as a commercial use and pull together the volume of cars entering and exiting. Mrs. Eddy added that the child care center could provide the number of students or the ITE manual for child care centers of that size could also be used.

ACTION: VDOT will review the passing zone in front of 6117 Catlett Road, evaluate the commercial entrance, site distance, accident data and the length of the existing passing zone and report back to the Transportation Committee.

4. Morgansburg Road - Various Requests

Since there were no citizens present to represent this request, Mrs. Eddy asked to postpone this item until the next meeting.

Mr. Tate stated that the average daily traffic (ADT) volume is 190 vehicles per day and there were no reportable accidents along this road.

Mr. Green explained that many people walk on this road and it becomes dangerous when two cars pass with pedestrians in the roadway.

Mr. Moore confirmed with VDOT that this is an unmarked paved road; therefore the speed limit is 55 mph.

ACTION: This item was postponed until the October 31, 2012 meeting.

5. Markham Rest Area

Mrs. Eddy reviewed the staff report and added that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) recently went on a site visit to the Warren County rest area.

Mr. Eltringham commented that if the committee worked with the CTB to put forth a plan, the rest area could be opened at a reasonable cost based on the research provided.

Ms. Garreau inquired how much land surrounding the rest area is in conservation easements. Mr. Trumbo replied that it is close to the G.R. Thompson Wildlife Management Area and there are residential property owners on the north side of Rt. 66. Mrs. Eddy added that there is only one house on the north side.

Mr. Trumbo shared that Supervisor Schwartz is concerned about opening up a lighted rest area.

Mr. Eltringham asked if Mr. Trumbo would draft a letter from the Transportation Committee or the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to the state government and CTB, requesting them to open the rest area under certain conditions. Mr. Trumbo said he would prefer the committee invite Supervisor Schwartz to the next meeting to share his concerns and participate in drafting the conditions. Mrs. Eddy explained that the committee will need to make a recommendation to the BOS, who will take it from there.

Mrs. Eddy requested the committee members each visit the Warren County rest area now that lights have been installed.

6. Citizens' Time

No citizens spoke at this time.

7. Other Items

Mr. Eltringham mentioned a letter from Peter Schwartz to the Culpeper District VDOT Administrator regarding the Old Waterloo Road issues was sent this week.

Mr. Eltringham summarized the Super NoVa Study public meeting he attended in September. The draft plan is a thirty year vision plan including hubs in the region and the expansion of rail service between Lynchburg and Washington, DC. A representative of VDOT's Rail and Public Transportation Office agreed to look into incorporating conservation easements into their data. The next draft will come out in Ocotber 2012.

Mr. Eltringham reminded the committee that the November and December meeting will be combined and suggested November 28, 2012, the last Wednesday of November. All committee members agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 2012.